THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI HARIN PATHAK): (a) and (b) No, Sir. While deporting illegal Bangladeshi immigrants, it is ensured that no harassment is caused to the bona fide Indian citizens.

Illegal Bangladeshi Immigrants in the North East

†2223. PROF. R.B.S. VARMA: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that cultural pride of the people of Indian origin in various States of the country particularly in North Eastern India has been put in danger due to illegal intrusion of Bangladeshi immigrants as a result of which the public in above places have been compelled to launch a mass movement;

(b) if so, the details of such various mass movement; and

(c) what steps Government have taken to protect the cultural pride of original residents of affected States?;

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI I.D. SWAMI): (a) to (c) There are reports of large scale illegal influx of Bangladeshi nationals who manage to infiltrate into the country in spite of checks and control at the international border due to the long, open and porous nature of the border. The problem of illegal influx is mainly from Bangladeshi. The local people of the North Eastern States perceive their ethnic/cultural identity being threatened by infiltration of other ethnic/cultural groups. To curb illegal influx into the country several measures have been taken by the Government which include strengthening of BSF and equipping them with modern and sophisticated equipment/gadgets; raising of additional battalions of BSF; reduction of gaps between border outpost intencification of patrolling accelerated programme of construction of border roads and border fencing; provision of surveilance equipment, etc. State Governments and Union Territories have also been directed to enfore the provisions of Foreigners Act (IMDT Act in case of Assam) strictly. The powers under Section 3(2)(c) of the Foreigners Act, 1946 to detect and deport foreign nationals staying in India unauthorisedly have been entrusted to the State Government and UT Administrations. Besides administrative instructions are also issued to them from time to time to launch special drives to detect the foreign nationals including

Bangladeshi nationals staying illegally in the country for their immediate deportation.

The Government has also constituted Autonomous District Councils/ Autonomous Councils in the States of Assam, Mizoram, Tripura and Meghalaya under the Sixth Schedule to the Constitution of India to provide autonomy and to protect the cultural identify of the people. The Government has recently agreed to constitute Bodoland Territorial Council (BTC) to address the concerns of Bodos.

Controlling Crime in Delhi

2224. SHRI B.J. PANDA: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether police Chief of Delhi has drawn up an agenda to control crime in the Capital, if so, details thereof;

(b) whether in a number of cases, courts had charged Delhi police of "Tardy probes" , if so, what is being done to ensure transparency and objectivity in such cases; and

(c) break-throughs made during the year 2002 in such cases?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI HARIN PATHAK): (a) The crime situation in Delhi is reviewed and analyzed continuouslly to identify the areas of weakness and devise measures to remove the same.

(b) and (c) During the year 2002, the courts made adverse observations about investigations made by Delhi Police in 39 cases, which included one case in which re-investigation of the case was ordered. Delhi Police have taken remedial action in this case whereas in other cases in which the Investigating Officers were prima facie found to be at fault, disciplinary action was initiated against them.

Detaining Bangladeshi Emigrants

2225. DR. AKHILESH DAS: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether a group of some 213 Bangladeshi emigrants were detained

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.